UNFUNDED MANDATES/ACIR

SUBJECT: Unfunded Mandate Reform Act of 1995 . . . S. 1. Dorgan modified amendment No. 18.

ACTION: AMENDMENT AGREED TO, 88-0

SYNOPSIS: Pertinent votes on this legislation include Nos. 15-17, 19-41, 43-45, and 47-61.

As reported by the Governmental Affairs Committee and the Budget Committee, S. 1, the Unfunded Mandate Reform Act of 1995, will create 2 majority (51-vote) points of order in the Senate. The first will lie against the consideration of a bill or joint resolution reported by an authorizing committee if it contains mandates and if Congressional Budget Office (CBO) cost estimates on those mandates are unavailable. The second point of order will lie against the consideration of a bill, joint resolution, motion, amendment, or conference report that will cause the total cost of unfunded intergovernmental mandates in the legislation to exceed \$50 million.

The Dorgan modified amendment would require the Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations (ACIR) to begin a study within 180 days of the measurement and definition issues involved in calculating the total costs and benefits to State, local, and tribal governments of compliance with Federal law (this requirement will be in lieu of the bill's call for the creation of a temporary commission to conduct this study, with a one-time authorization of \$1 million). The study would consider the feasibility of measuring indirect costs and benefits as well as direct costs and benefits. To complete this study, the ACIR would be permitted to hire temporary staff, and staff from other agencies could be detailed to the ACIR on a reimbursable basis. The amendment would authorize \$1.25 million for each of fiscal years 1995 and 1996.

NOTE: By unanimous consent, the remaining committee amendments were temporarily laid aside to permit the consideration of the Dorgan amendment.

Those favoring the amendment contended:

Republicans and Democrats alike have lately been calling for a smaller, more effective government. In this spirit, we have offered

(See other side)

YEAS (88)				NAYS (0)		NOT VOTING (12)	
		nocrats	Republicans (0 or 0%)	Democrats (0 or 0%)	Republicans	Democrats (7)	
		(40 or 100%)			(5)		
Abraham Ashcroft Bennett Bond Brown Burns Chafee Coats Cochran Cohen Coverdell Craig D'Amato DeWine Dole Domenici Faircloth Frist Gorton Grams Grassley Gregg Hatfield Hutchison	Inhofe Kassebaum Kempthorne Kyl Lott Lugar Mack McCain McConnell Murkowski Nickles Packwood Pressler Roth Santorum Shelby Simpson Smith Snowe Specter Stevens Thomas Thompson Thurmond	Akaka Biden Bingaman Bradley Breaux Bryan Bumpers Byrd Campbell Conrad Daschle Dodd Dorgan Exon Feingold Feinstein Ford Glenn Graham Harkin	Heflin Hollings Kennedy Kerrey Kerry Kohl Lautenberg Leahy Levin Lieberman Mikulski Moseley-Braun Moynihan Murray Nunn Pell Robb Sarbanes Simon Wellstone			Gramm-² Hatch-² Helms-²AY Jeffords-² Warner-² EXPLANAT 1—Official I 2—Necessar 3—Illness 4—Other SYMBOLS: AY—Annou AN—Annou PY—Paired PN—Paired	nced Yea nced Nay Yea

VOTE NO. 18 JANUARY 13, 1995

the Dorgan amendment. The Dorgan amendment would use an existing organization, the ACIR, to prepare the report and recommendations on unfunded Federal mandates that this bill will require. The ACIR has already conducted similar studies, and it is well respected by State, local, and tribal governments. It would be foolish to hire new staff and rent new office space to create a new organization to conduct a study that could be done by an existing organization that is expert in the field. Accordingly, we have submitted the Dorgan amendment, which we trust will meet with our colleagues approval.

No arguments were expressed in opposition to the amendment.